



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

du

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,688	02/03/2005	Shuichi Matsumura	122627	8515
25944	7590	06/06/2007		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER LILLING, HERBERT J	
			ART UNIT 1657	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/06/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Interview Summary	Application No. 10/523,688	Applicant(s) MATSUMURA, SHUICHI	
	Examiner HERBERT J. LILLING	Art Unit 1657	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) HERBERT J. LILLING.

(3) JASON SMITH.

(2) JEFFREY BOUSQUET.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 29 May 2007.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1-20.

Identification of prior art discussed: WILLIAMS, REF 3.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: SEE ATTACHED INTERVIEW SUMMARY.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

ATTACHMENT TO INTERVIEW OF MAY 28, 2007

Discussed paragraph 4 pertaining to the 112 rejection based on enablement. Indication that the claims were rejected because the broad claims do not have limitations that would yield the enabling repolymerizable oligomers based on the prior art which teaches the same process steps as indicated. For example, Williams produces oligomers by the enzymatic hydrolysis of PLA with esterases, which are hydrolases as well as in an organic solvent. The product formed is a degradable product that produces oligomers of lactic acid. The claims do not have limitations based on the instant specification which produces the claimed repolymerizable oligomers which specification indicates that the prior art processes lack but the prior art as shown by Williams plus others which have the same process steps of depolymerizing in the presence of an organic solvent and a hydrolase.


The rejection as indicated in paragraph 5 was discussed which is within the scope of the elected claimed limitations but would be overcome by the translation of the priority documents. In addition, it was noted that the limitation as noted by claim 2, which was part of the non-elected invention, if inserted into claim 1, would be rejoined for consideration of allowance of the process claims.

Art Unit: 1657

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lilling whose telephone number is 571-272-0918 and Fax Number is **571-273-8300**, or SPE Jon Weber whose telephone number is 571-272-0925. Examiner can be reached Monday-Friday from about 7:30 A.M. to about 7:00 P.M. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

H.J.Lilling: HJL
(571) 272-0918
Art Unit 1657
May 29, 2007



Dr. Herbert J. Lilling
Primary Examiner
Group 1600 Art Unit 1657